

# **GITA-PSIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

## ***Regional OP-TTX Communications Focused Tabletop Exercise (TTX) Awarded to Arizona by the OEC***

### **GITA-PSIC Seeks to Identify Community to Participate in Federally Facilitated Exercise**

#### **Description of Technical Assistance and Benefit to Selected Region**

The State of Arizona Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Office announces that it has received approval of a Technical Assistance (TA) Request from the Federal Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications (OEC).

The Regional OP-TTX Communications Focused Tabletop Exercise (TTX) provides first responders, supervisors, and communications specialists in the public safety/service community an opportunity to discuss communications plans, assets and personnel in a tabletop format. The TTX provides trained, qualified, and experienced Exercise Design Teams who collaborate with local public safety and public service professionals to design, facilitate, and evaluate a communications-focused tabletop exercise.

#### **Service Provided by Federal Facilitators**

ICTAP will design, facilitate, and evaluate the TTX, and will create all exercise documents in an effort to reduce the time investment on the part of the host region. Deliverables for this TTX include:

- Initial and Final Planning Conference Briefings
- Situation Manuals (SITMANs)
- QuickLook Presentation
- Logistics Package (invitations, checklists, etc.)
- Exercise Presentations and Briefings
- After Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP)
- After Action Conference Presentation
- Tabletop Exercise Manual

Dr. Jennifer Hendry will participate in the leadership of the TTX. Dr. Hendry has been involved with Arizona's interoperable communication efforts, in her Federal Department of Homeland Security role as the Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP) contact for the State of Arizona. ICTAP presents the results of the TTX through an initial QuickLook presentation followed by a detailed and thorough an After Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) designed to document exercise best practices, gaps, and recommendations to resolve those gaps.

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This AAR/IP then allows the regional team to promote and measure progress toward resolving identified interoperable communications gaps through a Corrective Action Program (CAP). Finally, the requesting site receives a detailed Tabletop Exercise Manual that provides specific guidance for conducting additional communications-focused TTXs in the future.

### **Responsibilities of Selected Region**

The identified host region will be responsible for identifying meeting locations, eliciting the participation of their various public safety/service agencies and non-governmental organizations in the planning phases of the exercise, securing a location and attendance at the exercise itself, and using the results of the After Action Report as they move forward with their interoperability planning.

### **More Information**

The exercise is designed to allow involved agencies to review existing policies, procedures, and protocols as applied to a complex scenario in a static environment. Players review and verbalize their ability to use regional communications assets in response to a large-scale incident scenario; however, the movement of personnel and equipment is simulated. Evaluators are public safety communications subject matter experts trained to identify successes and gaps revealed during the exercise.

This exercise is designed to be fully compliant with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) and is aligned with Emergency Support Function #2 (Communications) and the Target Capabilities List (TCL). The TTX supports Arizona SCIP Initiative #10 to develop statewide, comprehensive communications training and exercise plan.

### **How Do I Learn More?**

The GITA-PSIC office is soliciting support from one region in Arizona, to participate in this important exercise. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Lisa Meyerson, GITA-PSIC Office Manager, at (602) 364-4780 or via email at [lmeyerson@azgita.gov](mailto:lmeyerson@azgita.gov).